Patent claims:

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- 1. A pharmaceutically active compound having a carboxylic acid group —COOH as a part of its chemical structure which -COOH group is in the form of a carboxylic acid ester and which carboxylic acid ester is selected from the group consisting of
 - 1-(2,3-disubstituted 1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl carboxylic acid ester, wherein the substituents are selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and (C_{1-22}) alkylcarbonyloxy,
 - 1-(1,3-disubstituted 2-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl carboxylic acid ester, wherein the substituents are selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and (C_{1-22}) alkylcarbonyloxy,
 - 1-(9H-fluorene-9-yi-(C₁₋₄)alkanyloxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl carboxylic acid ester,
 - 1-(decahydro-naphthalene-2-yl-oxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl carboxylic acid ester and
- 1-(2-amino(C₁₋₆)alkoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl carboxylic acid ester,
 with the proviso that, if the pharmaceutically active compound is a penicillin,
 then, 1-(2-amino(C₁₋₄)alkoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl carboxylic acid esters are excluded.
 - 2. A compound of claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutically active compound is a β -lactam antibiotic with the proviso of claim 1.
 - 3. A compound of claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutically active compound is a cephalosporin, e.g. comprising the basic structural elements as set out in formula

wherein ESTER is a carboxylic acid ester as defined in claim 1.

4. A compound of any one of claims 1 or 2, wherein the pharmaceutically active compound is a penicillin, e.g. comprising the basic structural elements as set out in formula

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and ESTER is a carboxylic acid ester as defined in claim 1, with the proviso of claim 1.

- 5. A compound of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the -COOH group is in the form of an ester selected from the group consisting of
 - 1-(2,3,-dihydroxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl-oxy-carbonyl,
 - 1-(2,3-diacetoxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl-oxy-carbonyl,
 - 1-(1,3-diacetoxy-2-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl-oxy-carbonyl,
 - 1-(2-octanoyloxy-3-acetoxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl-oxy-carbonyl,
- 10 1-(2-acetoxy-3-octanoyloxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl-oxy-carbonyl,
 - 1-(9H-fluorene-9-yl-methoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl-oxy-carbonyl,
 - 1-(9H-fluorene-9-yi-ethoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl-oxy-carbonyl,
 - 1-(decahydro-naphthalene-2-yl-oxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl-oxy-carbonyl and
 - 1-(2-amino-ethoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl-oxy-carbonyl, with the proviso of claim 1.
 - 6. A compound of claim 3, wherein the cephalosporin of formula CEPH is selected from the group consisting of
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[methyl-(imino-piperazin-1-yl-methyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-{[3-ethyl-2-(methylimino)-imidazolidin-1-yl]-hydrazonomethyl}-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[(carbamimidoyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2ene-2-carboxylic acid,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[(1,4,5,6,-tetrahydropyrimidin-2-yl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid.
- 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-{methyl-[N-(4-amino-cyclohexyl)-carbamimidoyl]-hydrazonomethyl}-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-

- bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid,
- 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[(2-dimethylamino-4,5-dihydro-imidazol-1-yl-imino)-methyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid,
- 3-Carbamoyloxymethyl-7-{2-furan-2-yl-[(Z)-methoxyimino]-acetylamino}-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid, and
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[(3-ethyl-2-(methylimino)-imidazol-1-yl-imino)-methyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid,

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- 7. A compound of any one claims 1 to 3 selected from the group consisting of
- 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[methyl-(imino-piperazin-1-yl-methyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(2,3-dihydroxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
- 15 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[methyl-(imino-piperazin-1-yl-methyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(2,3-diacetoxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[methyl-(imino-piperazin-1-yl-methyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(1,3-diacetoxy-2-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[methyl-(imino-piperazin-1-yl-methyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(2,-octanoyl-3-acetoxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[methyl-(imino-piperazin-1-yl-methyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(2-acetoxy-3-octanoyl-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[methyl-(imino-piperazin-1-yl-methyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(2-aminoethoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
- 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[methyl-(imino-piperazin-1-yl-methyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(2,3-dihydroxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
 - 7-12-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[methyl-(imino-piperazin-1-yl-methyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-

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- ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(decahydro-naphthalen-2-yl-oxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
- 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[(imino-piperazin-1-yl-methyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(2-aminoethoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
- 5 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[(imino-piperazin-1-yl-methyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(decahydro-naphthalen-2-yl-oxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[methyl-(imino-piperazin-1-yl-methyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(9H-fluoren-9-yl-methoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[methyl-(imino-piperazin-1-yl-methyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-([1-(9H-fluoren-9-yl)-ethoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[{[3-ethyl-2-(methylimino)-imidazolidin-1-yl]-hydrazonomethyl}-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(9H-fluoren-9-yl-methoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[carbamimidoyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(9H-fluoren-9-yl-methoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
- 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[(1,4,5,6,-tetrahydropyrimidin-2-yl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(9H-fluoren-9-yl-methoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-{methyl-[N-(4-amino-cyclohexyl)-carbamimidoyl]-hydrazonomethyl}-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(9H-fluoren-9-yl-methoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[(2-dimethylamino-4,5-dihydro-imidazol-1-yl-imino)-methyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(2,3-dihydroxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[(carbamimidoyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(2,3-dihydroxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[(1,4,5,6,-

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- tetrahydropyrimidin-2-yl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(2,3-dihydroxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
- 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[(2-dimethylamino-4,5-dihydro-imidazol-1-yl-imino)-methyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(2,3-dihydroxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
- 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-[methyl-(imino-piperazin-1-yl-methyl)-hydrazonomethyl]-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(2,3-dihydroxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
- 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-{[3-ethyl-2-(methylimino)-imidazolidin-1-yl]-hydrazonomethyl}-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(2,3-dihydroxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
 - 7-{2-(5-Amino-[1,2,4]thiadiazol-3-yl)-2-(fluoromethoxyimino)-acetylamino}-3-{methyl-[N-(4-amino-cyclohexyl)-carbamimidoyl]-hydrazonomethyl}-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(2,3-dihydroxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester.
 - 3-Carbamoyloxymethyl-7-{2-furan-2-yl-[(Z)-methoxyimino]-acetylamino}-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(9H-fluoren-9-yl-methoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester, and
- 3-Carbamoyloxymethyl-7-{2-furan-2-yl-[(Z)-methoxyimino]-acetylamino}-8-oxo-5-thia-1-aza-bicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid 1-(2,3-dihydroxy-1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl ester,
 - 8. A compound of any one of claims 1 to 7 in the form of a salt.
 - 9. A compound of any one of claims 1 to 8 for use as a pharmaceutical.
 - 10. A compound of any one of claims 1 to 8 for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of microbial diseases.
 - 11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of any one of claims 1 to 8 in association with at least one pharmaceutical excipient.
 - 12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of any one of claims 1 to 8

together with another pharmaceutically active compound.

- 13. The use of an ester group selected from the group consisting of
 - 1-(2,3-disubstituted 1-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl carboxylic acid ester, wherein the substituents are selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and (C₁₋₂₂)alkylcarbonyloxy,
 - 1-(1,3-disubstituted 2-propoxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl carboxylic acid ester, wherein the substituents are selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and (C₁₋₂₂)alkylcarbonyloxy,
 - 1-(9H-fluorene-9-yl-(C₁₋₄)alkanyloxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl carboxylic acid ester, and
 - 1-(decahydro-naphthalene-2-yl-oxycarbonyloxy)-ethyl carboxylic acid ester for the improvement of oral resorption of a pharmaceutically active compound.
- 14. A method for treatment of microbial diseases in a subject in need of such treatment,
 which method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 8 or a pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 12 or 13.
- 15. A pharmaceutical combination for use in a method for treatment of claim 15, comprising at least one compound of any one of claims 1 to 8 to be used concomitantly or in sequence with at least one immunosuppressant, immunomodulatory or anti-inflammatory active agent.

IL/18-Dec-2003

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